GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:402
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2001
CARGO HANDLING FACILITIES AT AIRPORTS
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Govenment have decided to tone up the cargo handling facilities at various airports in the country in view of WTO agreement to remove restrictions on exports/imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total expenditure incurred by the Government to renovate the cargo units at various airports during the last one year; and

(d) the extent to which the capacity of such cargo units has been increased to handle exports/imports?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) :- A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENTIN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c) & (d) OF LOK SAHBA STARRED QUESTION NO.402 FOR16TH APRIL,2001 REGARDING CARGO HANDLING FACILITIES AT AIRPORTS.

(a), (b), (c) & (d):- Improvement and modernisation of cargo handling facilities at various airports is a continuous process keeping in view the demand for such facilities and availability of resources. Airports Authority of India(AAI)has created Integrated Cargo Terminal facilities for quick processing of export and import cargo under a single roof at the four metro airports at Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai and Delhi. These arrangements, which include Computerisation, cold storage facilities, cargo apron for freighters, etc., have significantly upgraded and streamlined the cargo handling at these airports.

AAI has also created modest cargo terminal facilities at Nagpur, Guwahati and Lucknow airports. Further, international cargo handling facilites at Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Varanasi, Pune, Calicut, and Trivandrum are provided through the cargo terminals owned and operated by the concerned State Government undertakings.

AAI has incurred an expenditure of Rs.14.11 crores for upgradation of cargo terminal facilities at the airports during the financial year 2000-01.

The upgradation of the facilities and concurrent systemic improvements in the terminal processing have augmented the handling capacity by approximately 50% at the Cargo Terminals of the four metro airports.